

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please substitute the attached Replacement Sheets containing Figs. 1 – 3 for the originally filed Figures 1 - 3.

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Official Letter dated July 8, 2005, in which the Examiner rejected Claims 13, 14 and 16. The Examiner also indicated that Claims 19-22 were allowed and that Claims 15, 17, and 18 were objected to. Claim 13 has been amended and new Claims 23-32 have been added. New Claim 23 incorporates the limitations of Claims 1, 14 and 15, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. New Claim 27 incorporates the limitations of Claims 1 and 17, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. New Claim 30 incorporates the limitations of Claims 1 and 18, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In addition, Replacement Sheets are being filed herewith, as indicated above, for Figs. 1-3. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner rejected Claims 13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,416,582 to Falck et al. (hereinafter Falck). Claim 13 has been amended and now recites a method for dispensing fluid that includes the steps of providing a reservoir containing an amount of fluid, providing a spray mechanism for dispensing the fluid from the reservoir, positioning the fluid within the reservoir at an initial height above the spray mechanism, operating a controller to determine the initial height of the fluid, operating the spray mechanism to dispense an amount of the fluid wherein the amount of dispensed fluid is regulated by a hydrostatic pressure corresponding to the height of the fluid, operating the controller to determine a second height of the fluid, and calculating the amount of fluid used during the dispensing operation. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification at Page 4, Line 20-26. In addition, as is known in the art, the term hydrostatic pressure is the pressure that is exerted on a portion of a column of fluid as a result of the weight of the fluid above it.

Falck does not disclose that the amount of fluid being dispensed during the dispensing operation is regulated by the hydrostatic pressure corresponding to the height of the fluid. In fact, Falck states that the liquid meter unit includes a pump coupled to the liquid usage detector for fluid communication to deliver liquid coating

material to the coater head unit at a constant pressure. Falck also states that a motor is coupled to the pump to drive the pump, and a proportional valve is coupled to the controller and the pump to regulate the volume of liquid coating material delivered to the moving metal strip. The purpose of the invention is to use the height of the fluid, and thereby the hydrostatic pressure, to control the pressure of the fluid at the spray mechanism. Therefore, Applicants' invention as claimed is not disclosed and this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that independent Claims 13, 19, 23, 27, and 30 are in condition for allowance. Since the remaining claims depend from these independent claims, it is believed that those claims are also allowable for at least that reason. Therefore, Applicants contend that all of the pending claims are patentable over the Examiner's rejections, and request reconsideration of all the pending claims.